

## REMARKS

Claims 1-28, 30-35, 37-50, 52-57, 59-61, 67-71, 73-76, 78-85, 87-92, 94-97, 100-102, 104-109, 111, and 114-138 are pending in the application. Appellants' undersigned representative greatly thanks Examiner Ngo's indication in the Action mailed July 20, 2006, that independent claims 126, 127, and 129 are allowable, and that dependent claims 34, 91, and 108 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim from which they depend, and the limitations of any intervening claim. Appellants have presented an amendment that cancels all rejected claims, rewrites the allowable dependent claims in independent form, and adds new claims dependent from the allowed independent claims 126, 127, and 129, that are the same as the claims dependent from the allowed dependent claims, rewritten in independent form.

The following summarizes the amendments made to the claims:

**Dependent claim 34** – Dependent claim 34 depended from claim 33, which depended from independent claim 25. The amendment rewrites independent claim 25 to include all of the limitations of claims 33 and 34. Dependent claims 26-28, 30-32, and 37-40 all depended from independent claim 25 (now allowable as re-written), and dependent claims 37, 39, and 40 have been revised to be consistent with the revisions made to independent claim 25.

**Dependent claim 91**: Dependent claim 91 depended from claim 90, which in turn depended from independent claim 82. The amendment rewrites independent claim 82 to include all of the limitations of claims 90 and 91. Dependent claims 83-85, 87-89, and 94-96 all depended from independent claim 82 (now allowable as re-written), and closely mirror dependent claims 26-28, 30-32, and 37-40. Dependent 94-96 have been revised to be consistent with the revisions made to independent claim 82.

**Dependent claim 108**: Dependent claim 108 depended from claim 107, which in turn depended from independent claim 97. The amendment rewrites independent claim 97 to include all of the limitations of claims 107 and 108. Dependent claims 100-102, 104-106, and 111 all depended from independent claim 97 (now allowable as re-written). Dependent claims 102 and

111 have been revised to be consistent with the revisions made to independent claim 97.

**Independent claims 126, 127, and 129:** No revisions were made to these claims since the Action stated that these independent claims were allowable.

**New Claims:** The amendment adds new claims 139-168. New claims 139-148 depend from allowable independent claim 126, and closely mirror dependent claims 26-28, 30-32, and 37-40. New claims 149-158 depend from allowable independent claim 127, and mirror dependent claims 139-148. New claims 159-168 depend from allowable independent claim 129, and mirror dependent claims 139-148, and dependent claims 149-158.

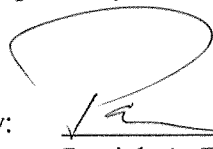
The foregoing amendment therefore cancels all rejected claims and rewrites independent claims 25, 82, and 97 to include all of the elements of the claims dependent thereon that the Action indicated were allowable. The amendment also presents dependent claims that depend from allowed independent claims, and that track the language presented in claims dependent from the re-written independent claims. No new matter is presented by the amendments, the amendments require no further consideration by the examiner, and the amendments place all of pending claims in condition for allowance. Appellants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner allow now pending claims 25-28, 30-32, 37-40, 82-85, 87-89, 94-97, 100-102, 104-106, 111, 126, 127, 129, and 139-168.

In view of the foregoing, appellants respectfully submit that the present claims are in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions concerning the foregoing, or should the Examiner believe that a telephonic interview would serve to further advance prosecution of the claims, the Examiner is courteously invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

No additional fee is believed to be required for entry and consideration of this response. Nevertheless, in the event that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office requires any additional fee to enter this response or to maintain the instant application pending, please charge such fee to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 07-1700.

Respectfully submitted,

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